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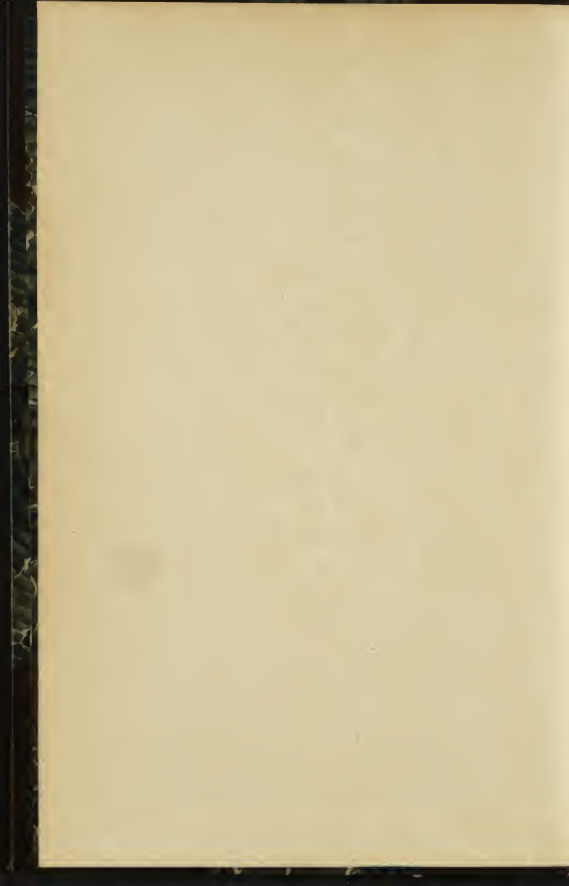
GUACANAGARI	PONTIAC	BLACK HAWK
MONTEZUMA	CAPTAIN PIPE	KEOKUK
GUATIMOTZIN	LOGAN	SACAGAWEA
POWHATAN	CORNPLANTER	BENITO JUAREZ
POCAHONTAS	JOSEPH BRANT	MANGUS
SAMOSET	RED JACKET	COLORADAS
MASSASOIT	LITTLE TURTLE	LITTLE CROW
KING PHILIP	TECUMSEH	SITTING BULL
LINCAS	OSCEOLA	CHIEF JOSEPH
TEDYUSKUNG	SEQUOYA	GERONIMO
	SHABONEE	

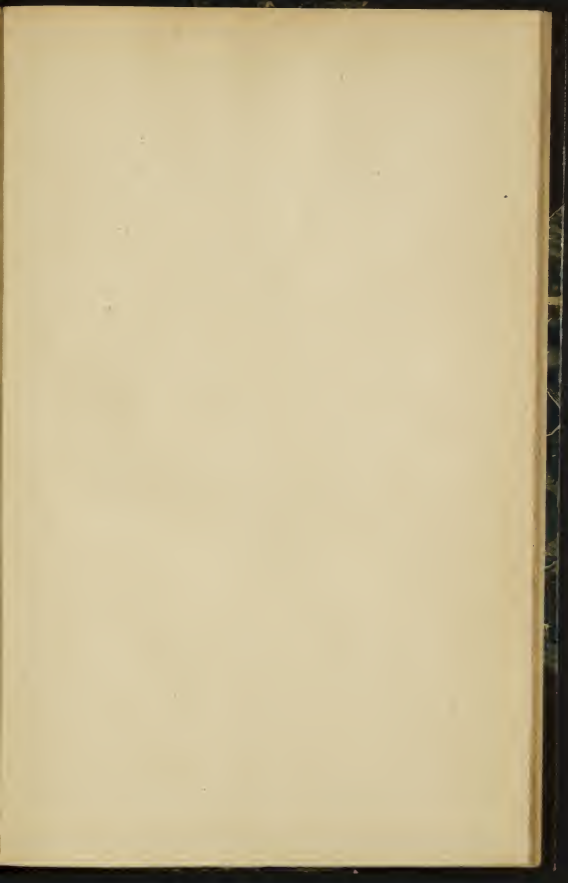


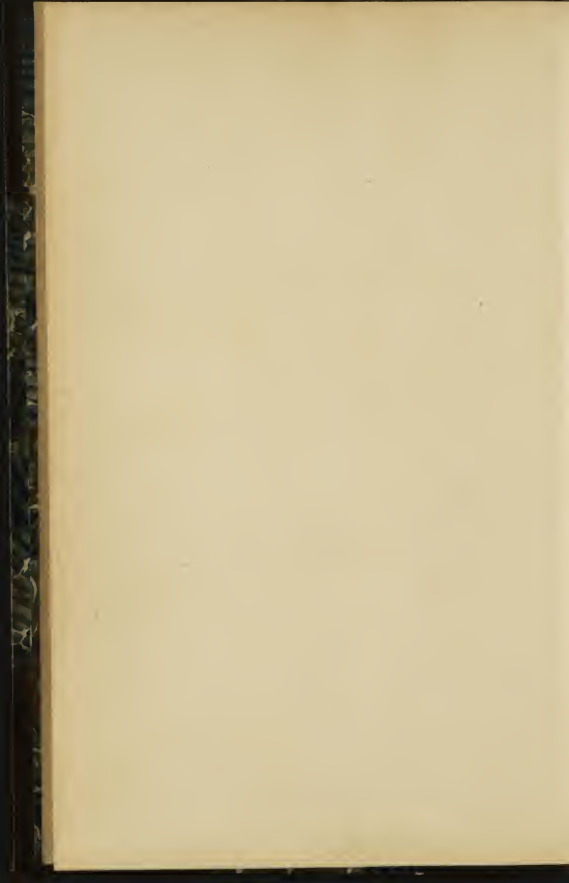
TO PERPETUATE THE HISTORY
AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
PEOPLE REPRESENTED BY THE
ABOVE CHIEFS AND WISE MEN
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THE
INDIAN TREATY,
FOR THE
LANDS NOW THE SITE
OF
PHILADELPHIA
AND
THE ADJACENT COUNTRY.

BY JOHN F. WATSON, ESQ.

Vol. III.

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THE INDIAN TREATY.

GENERAL opinion, and other circumstances, have hitherto favoured the idea, that the land now forming the site of Philadelphia, and, indeed of the province of Pennsylvania, was acquired, by treaty and purchase made by William Penn, when he met the Indian Sachems and their people under the Great Elm—called the Treaty Tree, in Kensington,—but such is not the case, as facts, now to be adduced, will sufficiently prove. These facts were not known to me when I wrote and published my *Annals of Philadelphia*, in 1830;—still, however, they may not materially alter the statements which I there made in my chapter entitled “the Treaty Tree and Fairman’s Mansion.” We must still admit the fact, that at that place, and under that Great Tree, “was shadowed once the revered founder of our honoured State, met with forest chieftains and their vanished tribes.” It was a great meeting of *verbal* conference and pledge—popularly called the Treaty,—in which mutual civilities were exchanged, and reciprocal promises of friendship and good will severally made. To this fact, the testimony of tradition has been unceasing and unchanging. It has been told and believed from the beginning—or from a time, as the civilians say, “in which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary.”

If my assumption or conjecture be true, it will then sufficiently account for the hitherto strange fact, that in so important a matter as the Deed and title to the lands, which we now, as Philadelphians, and even as Pennsylvanians, occupy, we have no original Treaty to show! We have hitherto been looking for an alleged instrument of writing, which had no existence *at that time*, because it was not then necessary, nor then executed. But the fact is, as records which I inspected last winter, at Harrisburg, will show, that the actual treaty made for the lands of the present Philadelphia and adjacent country, out to Susquehannah, was made in the year 1685, by Thomas Holme, as President of the Council, in the absence of William Penn, who was then at home in England; and as the considerations are so very small, in comparison with present value of the same regions, it may be deemed of sufficient interest to give the whole treaty in detail, as I transcribed it from the records,—to wit:

Wc, Shakkoppoh, Secane, Maliborc, Tangoras,—Indian Sakamakers, and right owners of the lands lying between Macapanaekan, alias Upland, now called Chester river or Creek, and the River or Creek of Pemapecka, now called Dublin creek, beginning at a hill called Conshohockin, at present Madson's ford, on the River Manaiunk or Skoolkill, from thence extending a parallel line to the said Maeopanaekan, (alias Chester creek,) by a south-western course, and from the said Conshohockin hill to the aforesaid Pemapecka, (alias Dublin creek,) by the said parallel line north-westerly, and so up along the said Pemapecka as far as the creek extends, and so from thence north-westerly back into the woods, to make up two full days' journey as far as a man can go in two days from the said station of the said parallel line at Pemapecka, as also beginning at the said parallel at Macopanaekan, (Chester creek;) and so from thence up the said Creek as far as it extends; and from thence north-westerly back into the woods to make up two full days' journey, as far as a

man can go in two days from the said station—the said parallel line at the said Macopanackan, alias Chester creek:—
(T For, and in consideration of 200 fathom of wampum, 30 fathom of duffels, 30 guns, 60 fathom of strawd waters, 30 kettles, 30 shirts, 20 gun-belts, 12 pair shoes, 30 pair stockings, 30 pair of scissors, 30 combs, 30 axes, 30 knives, 21 tobacco tongues, 30 bars of lead, 30 pounds of powder, 30 awls, 30 glasses, 30 tobacco boxes, 3 papers of leads, 44 lbs. of red lead, 30 pair of hawks bells, 6 drawing knives, 6 caps, 12 hoes:—To us in hand well and truly paid by William Penn, Proprietary and Governor of Pennsylvania and territories: Do by these presents, grant, bargain, and sell, &c., all right, title, and interest, that we or any others shall or may claim in the same,—hercby renouncing and disclaiming for ever, any claim or pretence to the premises, for us, our heirs, and successors, and all other Indians whatsoever. In witness whereof, we set our hands and seals, &c., this 30th day of the 5th Month, called July, and in the year 1685.

SHAKAKAPPOH,
 SECANE,
 MALEBORE,
 TANGORAS,

Sealed and delivered to Thomas Holme, President of the Provincial Council, in the presence of us—

TARECKHOUA,	LASSE COCKE,
PRXOUGHANT,	MOUNS COCK,
WESAKANT,	SWAN SWANSON,
KACOCABAHOU,	ISM FRAMPTON,
NEHALLAS,	SAMUEL CARPENTER,
TOUTAMEN,	WILL. ASLEY,
TOPASEKENIN,	ARTHUR COOKE,
	TRYALL HOLME.

Note.—The Indian signatures are represented by their *totems*, as the figure of a tortoise, snake, &c.

(P) The foregoing is recorded in the book of "Charters and Indian Deeds," page 62, in the office of the Secretary of State, at Harrisburg. The record appears to have been made only about 20 years ago.

In addition to the foregoing inventory of small things so solemnly conferred, I am enabled to give the following farther proceedings in this momentous case to us, the proper inheritors of the great benefit thus procured—to wit:

Philadelphia.

To my very loving friends, Shakhoppoh, Secaming, Malebore, Tangoras, *Indian Kings*; and to Maskeecasho, Wawarrin, Tenoughan, Tarreeka, Nesonhaikin, *Indian Sakamackers*, and the rest concerned:—

Whereas, I have purchased and bought of you, the Indian Kings and Sakamackers, for the use of Governor William Penn, all your land, from Pemapecka creek to Upland creek, and so backward to Chesapeake Bay and Susquehannah, two days' journey;—that is to say, as far as a man can go in two days, as under the hands and seals of you the said Kings, may appear; and to the end I may have a certain knowledge of the lands backward, and that I may be enabled and be provided against the time for running the said two days' journey, I do hereby appoint and authorize my loving friend, Benjamin Chambers, of Philadelphia, with a convenient number of men to assist him to make out a westerly line from Philadelphia to Susquehanna, that so the said line may be prepared and made ready for going the said two days' journey backward, hereafter when notice is given to you the said Kings, or some of you at the time of going the said line; and I do hereby desire and require in the name of our said Governor Penn, that none of you, the said Kings, Sakamackers, or any other Indians whatsoever, that have formerly been concerned in the said tracts of land, do presume to offer any interruption or hinderance in marking out this said line; but

rather I expect your furtherance and assistance, if occasion be herein; and that you will be kind and loving to my said friend Benjamin Chambers and his company, for which, I shall on the Governor's behalf, be kind and loving to you hereafter as occasion may require. Witness my hand and seal this 7th day of 5th Month, called July, being the fourth year of the reign of our great King of England, &c., and 8th of our Proprietary William Penn's Government.

THOMAS HOLME.

A true copy from the original by

JACOB TAYLOR.

[P The foregoing is recorded in a large folio in the Land Office, at Harrisburg, in Book No. 14, entitled "Old Surveys and Register of Land Warrants."

With the same paper is a diagram of the ground plot of the survey. It goes in a direct line from Philadelphia to a spot on the Susquehannah, at about three miles above the mouth of the "Conestogon," near to a spot marked "Fort Demolished." The line crosses *two Indian paths* running each N. W. by N.;—the first at 15 miles from Philadelphia at "Rocky run;" the other at 38 miles distant near "a rivulet," 2 miles beyond "Doe run." [P It might be matter of curiosity at this day to ascertain and observe the precise localities of those primitive roads and passes, used from time immemorial by the Aborigines, probably the only ones so specifically marked in our country.]

It will be seen from the premises, that the indefinite limits of a two days' walk, was predetermined to eventuate on our part, with an extension to the River Susquehannah, as a great and important natural boundary. It will be observed, too, that even before Penn's day, there had been a *Fort* constructed by some Christian people upon the shore of that river. We may remark, too, that it is in proof from our records at Harrisburg, that it was the practice in the early settlement, to acquire the lands by separate negotiations with separate

Indian proprietors, and generally for the like class and value of purchase consideration, as for instance;—at a treaty at New Castle on the 2d of 8th month, 1685, sundry Indians then convey “all the lands between Quing Quingas, called Duck Creek unto Upland, called Chester Creek, fronting along the Delaware River, and thence backward as far as a man can ride in two days with a horse, in consideration, &c.” In the same manner the famed “King Tamanen” and Matamequan, make a treaty on the 23d of 4th Month, 1683, with William Penn, for lands from Neshameneh Creek to Pema-pecka. And in the year 1737, a treaty is on record, made at Philadelphia by sundry Delaware Chiefs, to confirm one before made, (about 3 years before,) at Durham by two Delaware Chiefs or Sachems, namely, Tceshakomer, that is, Tisk-cohank and Nootames, that is, Nutemces, at which last were present Lappawinsee and other Delawares, “concerning lands sold by their fathers, more than fifty years before, unto William Penn”—“beginning at a Spruce tree by the river Delaware about Makerisk Kitton, (probably the Falls,) and thence W. N. W. by the mountains to a corner White Oak, and thence westward to Neshamini Creek,” &c. It is worthy of remark in this connexion, that the foregoing names of Tisk-cohank, i. e. *Tishohan* and *Lapowinsa* are the same persons whose two portraits, *finely executed at the time in Philadelphia by some unknown but excellent artist*, were lately received from England as a present from the present Penn family, and are now deposited among the treasures of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

The facts herein given, are communicated for the benefit of the Historical Society—to be used as the members may deem most convenient. They present many subjects for thought, and of comparison between our small beginnings and present enlarged attainments!

Respectfully submitted by

JOHN F. WATSON.

Germantown, December 2, 1835.

POST SCRIPTUM.

In an examination honestly intended to investigate the whole truth, one ought not, perhaps, to withhold from the reader the fact, that the River Delaware, as an *easternmost* boundary line, is not named, and that the only specific line given as a starting place, called a "station," and a "parallel line," is designated as running *from* Conshohocken Hill, (where is now Matson's Ford on the Schuylkill,) by a "*parallel line*," to Chester Creek, in a south-westerly course,—thus making it arrive at Chester Creek on the north-western line of the present Delaware county, at or near the Friends' School in Westown; and a "*parallel line*" is also made to run "from the said Conshohocken Hill, in a north-westerly course until it reaches the Pemapeeka Creek, probably at or near the present Horsham square in Montgomery county." From both those points, at each extremity of the line of width, the land was to be measured two days' journey into the woods, in a north-western direction; thus making the line from the Pemapeeka run in the course of the present southern boundary of Bucks county, back to the far end of that county, or even onward through the present Lehigh county, as far as the foot of the Blue Mountains;—and, also, making the line from Chester Creek run back by Downingstown, in the line of the present southern boundary of Berks county, to the foot of the same Blue Mountain range. James Logan, in his speech in Council, in June 1728, to the Indian Chiefs then present, said that "they had ten years before *confirmed* by treaty, all the lands from Duck Creek to Leekay, (now Easton,) and thence to the Hills, (the Blue Mountains,) on the Susquehannah, ten miles above Paxton," i. e., the present Harrisburg.

It might possibly be inferred from this view of the subject, that the land *lying between* the River Delaware and the afore-

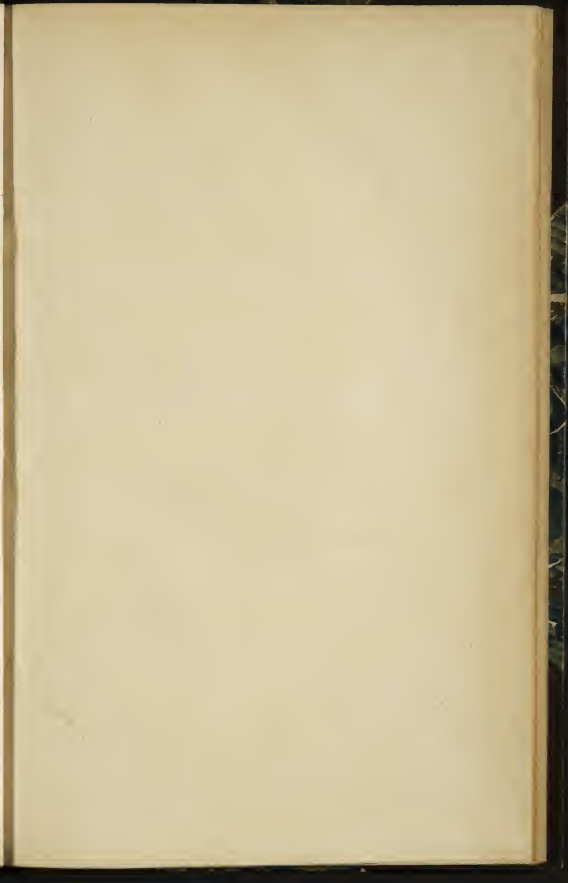
said "parallel line," was *not* conveyed in *that* treaty, but in some preceding one; but, besides the ambiguity of the term "*parallel*" used in the connexion, in the sense of a *straight line*, it is shown by sundry collateral facts, that it might have meant the conveyance of the land from river to river—say from the Delaware to the Susquehannah. We advert to facts like these, to wit: The order from the Surveyor General, Thomas Holme, to survey, addressed to Shakhoppah and other Kings in *that* treaty, says it is "to mark out a westerly line *from Philadelphia* to Susquehannah,"—"of the land purchased of them *backwards* to the same." We also know, that the diagram of the survey, as actually made, goes directly westward *from Philadelphia* to near the mouth of the Conestogo Creek.

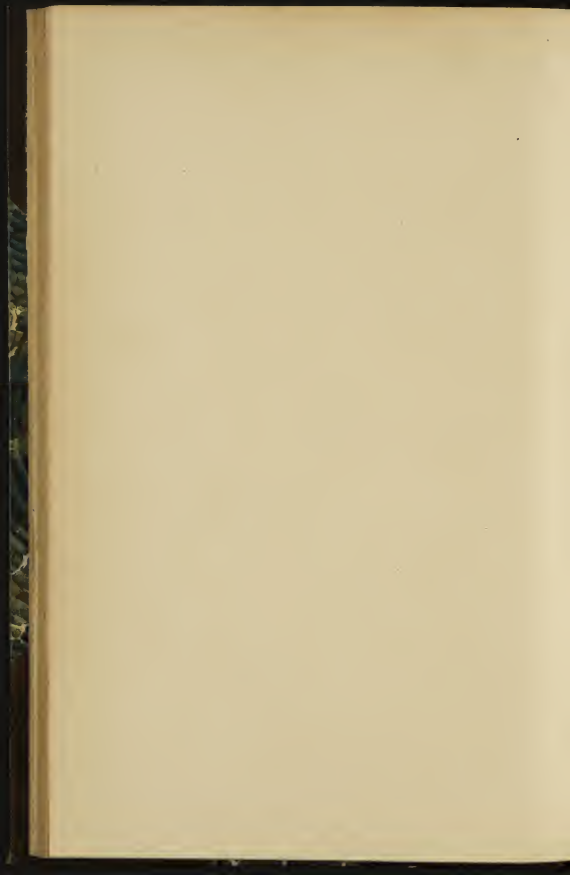
The objections which may possibly be made to these inferences are, that my Annals of Philadelphia, at page 127, state that one paper found among the archives at Harrisburg barely mentions, that "after the treaty was held, William Penn and the Friends went into the house of Lacey Cock;" and one Peter Cock was known to have had a grant of a tract called Shackamaxon, from the New York Governor in 1664. Besides this, it was said that Mr. Gordon, the late historian of Pennsylvania, had asserted that he had seen at Harrisburg an envelope, (possibly written by some Clerk of the Office in former years, as his sense of the contents,) on which was endorsed, "Papers relative to the Indian Treaty under the Great Elm." It may be urged too, that the treaty made on the 23d of 4th Month, 1683, when William Penn was known to be here, between William Penn and Kings *Tamanen* and *Metamequan*, for their lands, from "near Neshemenah Creek, and thence to Pemapecka," *may* have been treated for under the Treaty Tree. This certainly appears to have been the earliest land treaty upon record; and as Philadelphia was *then* already located as a city, it could not have been a necessary treaty for *that* object. The truth, however, may have

been, that there was an implied understanding for the use of lands *before* the pledge of formal treaty. For instance, in the present case, exploration and survey had been made in 1682, for making a city of Philadelphia at the mouth of the Poetquessing Creek, where is now G. W. Morgan's seat; and many persons had gone into and made settlements in Byberry, both being places within the bounds of King Tamanen's lands—the "Saint Tamany" of our modern appellation. In the case of the other Treaty of 1685, with King Shakhopoh and others, it must have included the same lands which William Penn had already conveyed to the Welsh settlers on the *western* side of Schuylkill, as early as 1682—3.

It might serve to settle the question, whether the Treaty with King Tamanen was the one made at the Treaty Tree, if inquiry were hereafter made at Harrisburg to ascertain the *date* of the fact there stated, that "after the Treaty was held, William Penn and the friends went into the house of Lacey Cock." It might also be examined whether that treaty had any direct relation to the one which I saw stated in the minutes of Council, made by Governor Gordon and his Council at *Conastogae*, on the 26th May, 1728, wherein they and Captain Civility and other Chiefs, as parties to the same, refer to Penn's "*first treaty*," in *nine* items;—one of which is, that "the doors of the Christian houses should be open to the Indians, and the houses of the Indians should be open to the Christians as welcome friends on both sides;" and finally, this mutual amity was to exist between them for ever,—or "as long as the Creeks and Rivers run, and while the Sun, Moon, and Stars endure." The consideration articles, given in *that* Treaty, made at Conestogo in 1728, as I understood the sense of it, for it was ambiguously worded to *my* mind—read thus: "We bind them with these several parcels of goods, to wit: 20 stroud match coats, 20 duffels, 20 blankets, 20 shirts, 1 cwt. of powder, 2 cwt. of lead, 500 flints, and 50 knives." I mention these specifications thus in detail, as a better means

to identify a "*first treaty*," if indeed by this expression any thing more was meant than *their* first treaty as *emigrant* Shawanese, when coming in 1698 from the region of North Carolina, and placed, "by agreement, at the said Conestogo; or it might have been the form chosen as their expressed recollections of the Indians generally, founded upon *unwritten* promises, spoken in their own figurative method.









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